

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of a~~ A method of using a fatty acid ester as a slip additive in a thermoplastic moulding composition in the production of moulded polyethylene terephthalate articles in the form of bottle preforms, the method comprising incorporating said fatty acid ester into a bottle perform moulded from polyethylene terephthalate, wherein the ΔE value in a bottle blown from the preform is less than 0.5, wherein the $\Delta E = (\Delta L^{*2} + \Delta a^{*2} + \Delta b^{*2})^{1/2}$ wherein ΔL^* is the difference in the L value between the bottle including the additive and a standard which does not include the additive, Δa^* is the difference in a^* value between the bottle including the additive and a standard which does not include the additive and Δb^* is the difference in b^* value between the bottle including the additive and the standard which does not include the additive.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid ester is colourless.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid ester is selected from glycerol fatty acid esters.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 3, wherein the glycerol fatty acid ester is selected from glycerol monooleate, glycerol monoricinolate, glycerol monopalmitate, glycerol monostearate and mixtures of two or more thereof.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid ester is selected from acetylated glycerol fatty acid esters.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 5, wherein the acetylated glycerol fatty acid ester is ethoxylated glycerol monostearate.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid ester is selected from sorbitan fatty acid esters.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 7, wherein the sorbitan fatty acid ester is selected from sorbitan monolaurate, sorbitan monooleate, sorbitan monopalmitate, sorbitan monostearate, and mixtures of two or more thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The use~~ A method according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid ester is selected from refined rapeseed oil, montanic acid triglyceride, PEG-400 dilaurate, PEG-200 dioleate, acetylated triglyceride, and mixtures of two or more thereof.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A method thermoplastic moulding composition~~ according to claim 1, ~~comprising polyethylene terephthalate and a slip additive composition comprising at least one fatty acid ester, the slip additive composition being~~ wherein the fatty acid ester is present in the moulding composition in an amount effective to reduce the coefficient of friction of a moulded article formed from the moulding composition by at least 25% relative to the coefficient of friction of a corresponding moulded article formed from the moulding composition in the absence of the slip additive.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) A moulded polyethylene terephthalate article comprising a fatty acid ester selected to be effective in reducing the co-efficient of friction of the moulded article.

14. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a moulded thermoplastic article comprising providing a thermoplastic moulding composition comprising polyethylene terephthalate, admixing with the thermoplastic moulding composition at least one fatty acid ester selected to be effective in reducing the co-efficient of friction of the moulded article, heating the composition and moulding the hot composition so as to form a moulded article, wherein the article is a bottle perform, wherein the ΔE value in a bottle blown from the preform is less than 0.5, wherein $\Delta E = (\Delta L^{*2} + \Delta a^{*2} + \Delta b^{*2})^{1/2}$ wherein ΔL^* is the difference in the L value between the bottle including the additive and a standard which does not include the additive, Δa^* is the

difference in a* value between the bottle including the additive and a standard which does not include the additive and Δb^* is the difference in b* value between the bottle including the additive and the standard which does not include the additive.

15. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said fatty acid ester is a long chain fatty acid ester wherein the chain length is at least 12.

16. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said fatty acid ester is a long chain fatty acid ester wherein the chain length is twelve to eighteen.

17. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the amount of slip additive included in the thermoplastic moulding composition from which a said moulded article is produced is at least 0.1% w/w.

18. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the amount of slip additive is at least 0.3% w/w.

19. (New) The method according to claim 18, wherein the amount of slip additive is at least 0.4 % w/w.

20. (New) The method according to claim 19 wherein the amount of slip additive is no more than 0.5% w/w.

21. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said slip additive is able to withstand injection moulding at a temperature in the range 260°C to 310°C.

22. (New) A method of improving packing efficiency of bottle preforms in a container, the method comprising producing bottle preforms comprising polyethylene terephthalate incorporating a fatty acid ester as a slip additive; and filling the container with bottle preforms.

23. (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein the ΔE value in bottles blown from the preforms is less than 0.5, wherein $\Delta E = (\Delta L^{*2} + \Delta a^{*2} + \Delta b^{*2})^{1/2}$ wherein ΔL^* is the difference in the L value between a bottle including the additive and a standard which does not include the

additive, Δa^* is the difference in a^* value between a bottle including the additive and the standard which does not include the additive and Δb^* is the difference in b^* value between a bottle including the additive and the standard which does not include the additive.

24. (New) A container containing bottle preforms comprising polyethylene terephthalate incorporating a fatty acid ester as a slip additive for improving packing efficiency of the bottle preforms in the container.

25. (New) A container according to claim 24, wherein the ΔE value in bottles blown from the preforms is less than 0.5, wherein $\Delta E = (\Delta L^{*2} + \Delta a^{*2} + \Delta b^{*2})^{1/2}$, wherein ΔL^* is the difference in the L value between a bottle including the additive and a standard which does not include the additive, Δa^* is the difference in a^* value between a bottle including the additive and the standard which does not include the additive and Δb^* is the difference in b^* value between a bottle including the additive and the standard which does not include the additive.